

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 10061 151650Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9085

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 10061

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, US, FR, UK, GW

SUBJ: QUADRIpartite TALKS ON CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS

REF: STATE 138324

1. AT AN INFORMAL MEETING JUNE 15 WITH THE EMBASSY ECONOMICS MINISTER, FOREIGN OFFICE ASSISTANT SECRETARY DR. LAUTENSCHLAGER STATED THAT THE FRENCH AS WELL BUT PARTICULARLY THE BRITISH WERE PREPARING TO SEND BIGGER DELEGATIONS TO THE QUADRIpartite TALKS IN BONN ON JUNE 22 AND 23. HE REGARDED THIS AS AN UNFORTUNATE DEVELOPMENT SINCE HE HAD HOPED THAT THE SUBJECT COULD BE DEALT WITH WITHIN FOREIGN OFFICE CIRCLES AND NOT INVOLVE AS THE FRENCH AND BRITISH PLAN REPRESENTATIVES OF ECONOMIC AND DEFENSE INTERESTS. HE REMARKED THAT FOR THE FRENCH THE WHOLE QUESTION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS WAS A HIGHLY-CHARGED POLITICAL ISSUE, AND FOR THE ECONOMICALLY STRAPPED BRITISH ARMS TRANSFERS REPRESENTED A MAJOR EXPORT MARKET.

2. DR. LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID THAT THE GERMANS WERE
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HOSTING THE MEETING MOSTLY BECAUSE OF THE FOUR POWERS INVOLVED, THEY HAD THE LEAST AT STAKE AND COULD THEREFORE VIEW THE MATTER WITH RELATIVE OBJECTIVITY. HE OBSERVED THAT IT WOULD BE IDEAL IF THE FOUR COULD ALL AGREE TO THE FRG POLICY, BUT REALIZED THAT THE U.S. AT LEAST WITH ITS WORLDWIDE RESPONSIBILITIES COULD NOT FUNCTION UNDER GERMAN LIMITATIONS.

3. INFORMATION FROM THE SECTION OF THE FRG FORNOFF
DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH ARRANGING THE PROGRAM FOR THE
QP TALKS SUGGESTS THAT THE FRENCH AND BRITISH DELEGA-
TIONS WILL NOT BE INFLATED AS MUCH AS DR. LAUTENSCHLAGER
FEARS. SEE SEPTTEL FOR COMPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS PER
INFORMATION AVAILABLE HER.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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